

VIRGINIANS AWAKE TO ROAD PROBLEM

They at Last Realize Necessity
of Good, Permanent High-
ways.

MANY COUNTIES ACTIVE

Commissioner's Report Encour-
aging to All Interested in Great
Campaign.

Nothing shows better than the report of State Highway Commissioner P. St. Julien Wilson, that at last Virginia is becoming awakened to the necessity of improving the thoroughfares of the State. A comparison of this report with that of last year also indicates that besides doing the work already laid out, the commission has been educating the people to take advantage of the aid offered by the Withers-Lassiter law. In almost every section of the State there are at least a few miles of improved roads, which invariably serve as a nucleus for more extensive work under the direction of the commission.

Since the completion of the report, which went to the printers at the end of September, many counties not listed in it as having asked for State aid have made application. At the expiration of the time limit, March 1, 99 per cent. of the counties in the State had in applications either for new roads or bridges.

Some of them have decided to use the money appropriated to them in bridges, and others in roads. Of the ninety counties asking aid of the State, sixty-eight have asked that the money be used for the improvement of the roads and twenty-two that it be expended in bridging the streams. In addition to this the commission is endeavoring to bridge streams in other counties as far as practicable, and also to assist in the working of roads in such counties as have considered it better to spend their money in bridges. The counties of Buchanan, Gloucester, Greene, James City, King George, Middlesex, Northampton, Northumberland, Patrick and York have not taken advantage of the law. Many of the counties have authorized bond issues for the improvement of the roads and still others have made arrangements for elections.

Substantial Bridges.

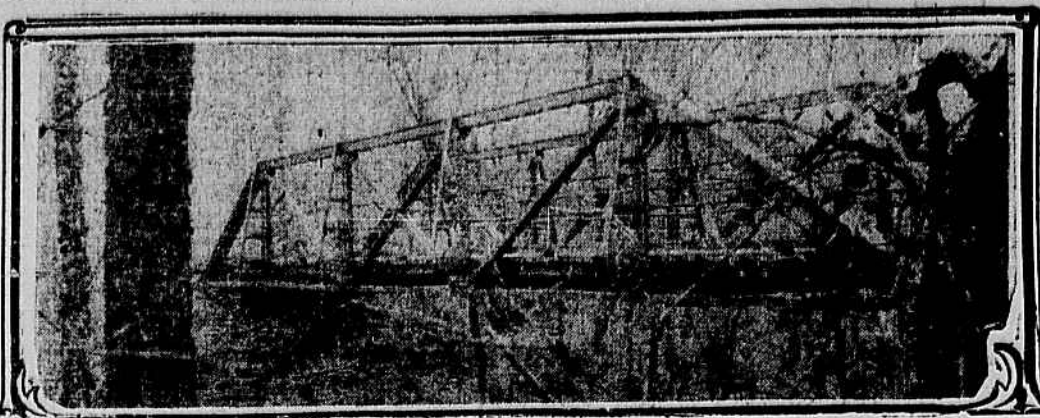
One of the most important things about the work of the commission is the substantial character of the results attained, and the satisfaction that all of it has given. A striking example of this is the strength and durability of the bridges, some of which are of concrete and others of steel. The fifty-foot span shown here was recently constructed in Henrico county, and is said to be the longest single span of reinforced concrete in the United States. The contractors having this work are required to have the bridges completed and accepted by the inspectors of the commission before they are paid for the construction.

Amherst was the first county in the State to take advantage of convict labor and other help from the State, and consequently has received more benefit from the work. There are now in that county two roads under construction. The first contract was let in April, 1907, for a road from Lynchburg to Amherst Courthouse, a distance of 15.2 miles. At the time of the closing of the commissioner's report 45 per cent. of this road had been completed. Another similar contract in this county from the Lynchburg-Amherst Road to Elton, a distance of 6.33 miles, of which only 6 per cent. was completed last fall.

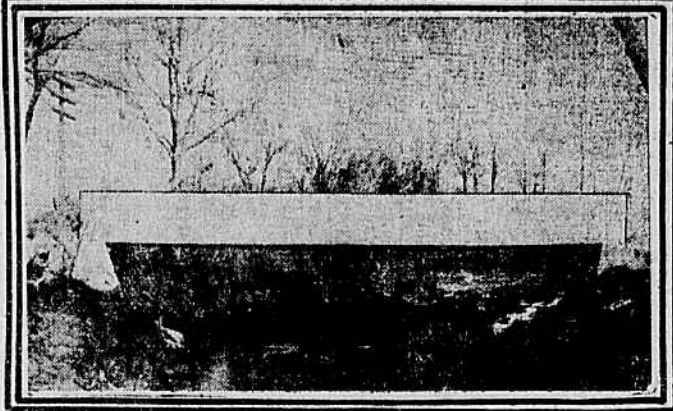
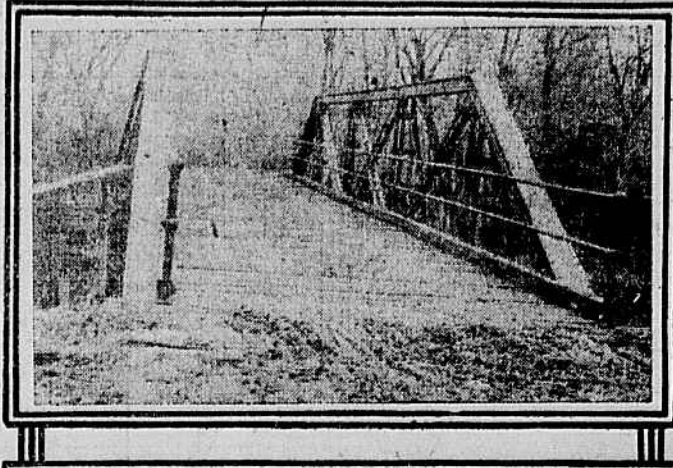
The total number of convict days in these roads was 12,385 and the total cost to the county to October 1 was \$27,073.47. On these roads the maximum grade has been reduced from 12.75 per cent. to 7 per cent., except in one short place. The road is being macadamized 15 feet in width and 8 inches deep for the first mile and 14 feet in width and 6 inches deep for the remainder of the distance.

In Chesterfield county work was begun on the road from Manchester to Goode's Bridge in September, 1907, a distance of 15 miles, and is now completed. At the time of the closing of Mr. Wilson's report, 95 per cent. of it was completed and in operation. This road is of gravel construction, varying in width from 12 to 16 feet

BUILDING BRIDGES IN VIRGINIA



A STEEL BRIDGE
in Charlotte County.



REINFORCED CONCRETE BRIDGE IN HENRICO COUNTY.
One of the Longest Single Spans of the Kind in the United States.

with a depth of gravel of 9 inches. The cost per mile to the county, \$260.55; the total cost to the county to October 1 being \$8,746.32. During that time the convict road force worked 5,669 days.

Contracts were let in June, 1908, for 8.2 miles of macadam road in Fauquier county. This road is the same in character as the other roads constructed by the commission, and extends from The Plains to Middleburg. The greater part of the money used in the construction of this road was raised by private subscription. The total cost to the county of this road was \$6,106.87.

In Greensville county three roads have been built out of Emporia under the supervision of a government engineer supplied from the office of the Public Roads Department in Washington. They aggregate 6 miles in length and were 97 per cent. completed at the end of the year. The total cost of the roads to the date of closing of the report was \$14,608.85.

The following roads in different parts of the State have been in charge of the commission since it was created: Bedford and Campbell counties, from Lynchburg to Boonesboro, 4.7 miles. Campbell county, from Lynchburg to Forest, 2.5 miles. Culpeper county, from Culpeper to Rixeyville, 5.3 miles. Dinwiddie county, from Petersburg towards Dinwiddie Courthouse, 7.3 miles. Henrico county, Chamberlain Avenue, 2 miles. Lee county, Ben Hur to Jonesville, 5.5 miles. Orange county, Orange to Madison Mills, 3.8 miles. Pittsylvania county, Danville through New Design, 3.3 miles. Prince Edward county, from Farmville towards Hampden Sidney, 2.3 miles. Russell county, Lebanon to Williams store, 7.81 miles. Blacksburg towards Elk Garden, 6.3 miles. Smyth county, Chilhowie to Seven-Mile Ford, 2.6 miles. Washington county, Meadow View to Graham's Bridge, 6.9 miles.

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Ladies, Attention.

I wish to announce to my patrons and ladies in general my opening of the Spring season. I will offer reduced prices from March 8th to 13th.

M. Bannett,
Ladies' Tailor, 940 West Grace.

Annie Sue, of Union Level, were in town Sunday and Monday, the guests of her sister, Mrs. J. H. Wall. Miss Louise Garrison, of Hockwell, of Hollywood, is spending the week with her sister, Mrs. L. O. Hite. Mrs. and Mr. Harlan and children left for Washington city Tuesday to spend a few days with relatives.

Doswell Social News.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

DOSWELL, VA., March 6.—Mrs. T. E. Binford and Miss Bessie Gooch, of Richmond, spent a part of last week here as the guests of Mrs. R. H. Wright. Miss Jean Doswell is visiting Mrs. F. J. Naylor in Charlotte county. Mrs. Walter Holmes has returned from a short visit to her sister, Mrs. A. W. Duke, in Richmond. Mrs. Ryland Wright and little daughter, Violet, have returned from a week's stay in Norfolk, where they visited Mrs. E. L. Buchanan.

Why Be Thin?

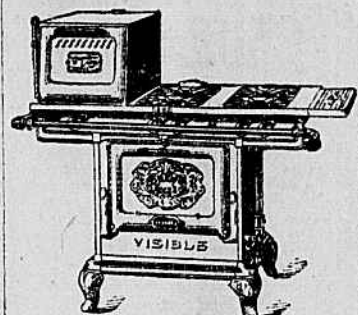
Nervous Men and Women Can All
Become Strong and Healthy.

Make-Man Tablets Free:

Has it ever occurred to you that your health, strength, happiness, success, and even life itself, depend upon the condition of your nervous system more than upon anything else? Thousands of men and women lose their positions, fail in business, are cast aside by society, and as a result become discouraged with life, lose ambition, and even get into bad habits. These persons carefully, and you will find that their failure in life is due mainly to a debilitated, run-down nervous system, caused from weak, impure, impoverished blood. This condition results in Loss of Flesh, Nervous Prostration, Nervous Dyspepsia, Insomnia, Rheumatism, Kidney and Liver Troubles and other nervous disorders. Make-Man Tablets are the greatest strengthener and flesh builder known. Make-Man Tablets act directly on the blood supply of the entire system, and bring back the rosy cheeks, the sparkling eyes and perfect, lasting health. They are entirely free from dangerous drugs. Guaranteed under Pure Food and Drug Law. Make-Man Tablets are sold by leading druggists. A box, or six boxes for \$2.50; or by mail direct on receipt of price. If not satisfied your money will be cheerfully refunded.

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(Address)
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Records on easy terms.

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Blue Ridge Springs Social News.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

BLUE RIDGE SPRINGS, VA., March 6.—Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Layman and children, of Bonasacks, visited R. W. Richey this week.

Warren Giles, of Rock, W. Va., is visiting his uncle, Elliott Falls. Rev. Emory Crumbraker, wife and little daughter, of Bonasacks, spent last Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Hall.

Miss Maggie Dooley, who has been quite sick, is improving slowly. Mrs. L. R. Price, of Roanoke, is visiting her mother, Mrs. Ben Murry, who has been quite sick.

Mrs. Evelyn Goode, of Richmond, is spending the winter with her niece, Mrs. W. A. Kux.

Mrs. Jane Giles, of Rock, W. Va., stopped over here a few days to see her mother, Mrs. Falls, on her way to visit her daughter, Mrs. Evans, of Appomattox.

Miss Irene Spickard, John Howard Payne, Miss Edith Spickard, C. J. Smith and Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Price made up a box party to see "The Clansman" in Roanoke Thursday night.

Crewe Social News.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

CREWE, VA., March 6.—The condition of Dr. J. W. Bryant, who has been seriously ill, is somewhat improved. His children have been summoned to his bedside, and are still with him.

Mrs. Ann Sheffield is convalescent, after a long, serious illness. Frank Fox, of South Hill, will visit in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Roberts Sunday.

Mrs. Gracie Burton is visiting her uncle, Micajah Oliver, who is quite sick at his home in Manassas.

Miss Nettle Moore is visiting her sister, Mrs. Wray Royal, of Newport News.

E. Booker, synodical evangelist, home missions, preached at the Presbyterian Church Sunday morning and night.

Miss Eva Johnston, of Greensboro, N. C., is visiting relatives here. Mrs. Martin has returned home, after a stay of some length in Charlotte, N. C.

Mrs. W. T. Bradshaw has returned home from Windsor. Mrs. Alice S. Oliver spent the past week in Lynchburg in the interest of the Women's Foreign Mission Board of the Christian Church.

Cartersville Social News.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

CARTERSVILLE, VA., March 6.—B. W. Palmer, the postmaster at Cartersville, is spending the week attending the inauguration. He also will visit his son, Julian O. Palmer, of College Park.

Mrs. Zeddie Rice, of Fork Union, has returned to her home after a visit to relatives here. Mrs. H. M. Crowles and little son, of Howardsville, spent the week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. James Rhodes, of this place.

Miss Holman, of Bremo, has been the guest of Mrs. C. W. Cardwell for several days. Miss Nettie Moore, of Petersburg, continues quite sick with typhoid fever.

Palmyra Social News.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

PALMYRA, VA., March 6.—Mrs. Willie Gray Shepherd and her daughter, Miss Sally, are spending two weeks with friends in Atlanta. Professor Jordan's mother is visiting him.

Hon. Pembroke Pettit was in Washington to attend the inaugural ceremonies. Mrs. Fred Davies, nee Pettit, who has been spending the winter in Cuba, is expected home soon.

De Witte Social News.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

DE WITTE, VA., March 6.—Mrs. W. L. Sheppard and Mrs. Whitaker, of Pilot Mountain, N. C., are visiting Mrs. G. V. Simpson, of this place. George Butterworth and David Moore Bagley left Wednesday for Washington to attend the inauguration.

Miss Linda Coleman, of Ford, Va., is visiting Mrs. W. B. Boisen.

South Hill Social News.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

SOUTH HILL, VA., March 6.—Miss Mabel Elder, of Accomac, is visiting the family of G. L. Elmore. Mrs. N. A. Spotts and children returned to Lawrenceville Sunday after a short visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Ellis. Miss Myrtle Pearce returned to her home in Capron Tuesday after spending several days with her brother, R. A. Pearce. W. H. Simmons and daughter, Miss

ROAD CAMPAIGN GROWS STEADILY

Throughout Entire State Greater
Interest in Permanent High-
ways Is Shown.

RESULTS OF CONVENTION

Officers of Association Busy Per-
fecting Plans and Furnish-
ing Information.

Since the organization of the Virginia Good Roads Association several weeks ago the activity in behalf of good roads has shown a remarkable increase. The increase is not confined to any particular section of the State, but is State-wide, and the interest is on the increase.

This increase is due to two causes, first, to the results that were shown at the good roads convention by the delegates present from the few counties which had been permanent road counties, and second, by the vigorous campaign that the officers of the Virginia Good Roads Association are maintaining.

The second cause has aided the first materially, which was the object of the association, and although the fight planned by the association has been in progress less than a month, and is only in its infancy, the fruit is being gathered already.

Lassiter at Work.
Senator Charles F. Lassiter, the vice-president of the Virginia Good Roads Association, is responsible for the interest that is being manifested, for since the adjournment of the convention he has been at the helm of the association, not only directing the hustling making speeches and organizing local associations as auxiliaries to the State association. Senator Lassiter has visited six sections of the State in the past two weeks, every one of which is now bending its efforts to arouse the counties to a bond issue, and to change the present method of spending the money appropriated to road improvements.

He spoke during the past week at Emporia, Sussex and Norton. On Monday he has arranged for an unusually large meeting at Suffolk, at which he will be assisted by President R. W. Withers, C. C. Schoof, H. L. Harwood and a large delegation of the members located in Nansemond county. On March 12 the good roads advocates will hold a meeting which Mr. Lassiter will address. On March 15 and 16 he will assist the enthusiastic advocates of the good roads movement in planning for the improvement of the roads as provided for under the bond issue recently voted upon by those citizens.

Harwood a Busy Man.
While Mr. Lassiter is busy on the hustling, Secretary H. L. Harwood and his assistants are devoting their time to other parts of the campaign. The Legislative committee is also engaged in compiling information as to the resources of the State and collecting data as the amount will be available for State aid to roads after the State's obligations are provided for. The vice-presidents of the State association, of which there is one in every county and city are devoting their time to the formation of local associations, and to the interest in their county or city.

The secretary's office is assisting with the vice-presidents and local associations by conducting a State-wide campaign of education. In the past week letters to 2,000 doctors and 8,000 school teachers have been mailed, seeking the cooperation in this movement, which is regarded as the most important economic question facing the Virginia public.

As it will be impossible for Senator Lassiter to make a tour of the State in less than six or eight months, the following instructions, bearing on the objects of the association and how to organize local organizations are published:

Objects of the Association.
The vice-presidents of the counties and cities are to form local organizations and secure memberships for the State association.

To take charge of the work of organizing for better roads in their respective county or city.

To co-operate with other counties and cities, through the Virginia Good Roads Association, for good roads throughout the State.

The campaign of education, which this association proposes to carry on, has for its object to secure the support throughout the State of an informed and active membership in the half of the measures which may be advocated in the Legislature by this association.

In order to conduct the office of this association successfully carry on the campaign of education and arouse public sentiment, it will require a considerable amount of money for postage, printing, traveling expenses of the first vice-president and secretary.

The first vice-president and secretary are the only paid officers. To raise this money the association made the membership fee of members \$1.00. It will require ten thousand members, which is about one hundred members to a county and city. By his plan the burden or tax for conducting the office and campaign on the part of each county and city is very small.

The association is managed by an executive committee of seventeen, representing every section of the State. The legislative committee is composed of seventeen men experienced in good road legislation.

This is a business undertaking, we will need the support of every good road advocate throughout the State. To insure success the association will issue membership cards in packages of 25, 50 and 100 cards each. With each package a little memorandum book is sent to record the number of the card, the name and postoffice of the person or firm to whom the card is sold. The names are to be forwarded to the secretary's office, who will place them in the rollbook of the association, and literature and all information pertaining to the association will be mailed to them.

Additional information will be gladly furnished.

How Local Organizations May Be Formed.
While there is no prescribed method for forming local organizations, the following suggestions are offered:

Work up a meeting of a few citizens, select a date and advertise by banners and through the papers and every other way possible that a mass meeting will be held at that date.

Secure as many names in advance as possible, stating that the membership fee will be \$1, and the fund will be used by the State Association for conducting the campaign throughout the State for good roads.

The State, under the existing laws, has a committee of at least three from each precinct to secure new members.

If there is some local matter of road improvement pending, get behind it and support whatever seems to be the best calculated to suit local conditions.

Good roads information can be obtained free of cost from the United States Road Inquiries Bureau, Washington, D. C., L. W. Page, director.

The State, under the existing laws, furnishes the following:
Free engineering advice, including

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surveys and plans, for both road and bridge construction, upon the request of the county road authorities. State convict aid furnished, guarded and fed by the State on condition that the county supplies its part, which is specified in the act.

State Money Aid.—The sum of \$250,000 having been appropriated for the benefit of those counties which have no convict road force, and is divided pro rata as they pay State taxes, the county to put up dollar for dollar.

The annual report of State Highway Commissioner, P. St. Julien Wilson, which is now ready for distribution, contains explicit information in reference to the above, and will be furnished upon request.

The officers of this association are at your service, and will co-operate with you for the attainment of our common purpose. If you are in doubt, do not hesitate to call upon our service.

The office of State Highway Commissioner, P. St. Julien Wilson, is also a very busy place. Since the convention, few roads are being constructed, and bridge construction are pouring in from every section of the State, mailed seeking the cooperation in this movement, which is regarded as the most important economic question facing the Virginia public.

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